

Name _____ Class _____

The Constitutional Convention

Read Lesson 1 – The Constitutional Convention found on the wikispace. Answer each of the following questions thoughtfully using complete sentences and in your own words. Simply copying from the text of the reading is not acceptable.

1. According to the Continental Congress what was the only purpose for the convention?
2. What expectations did James Madison have of most of the delegates to the Convention?
3. What was the average age of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention?
4. When the Convention began on May 25, 1787, who was elected president of the convention and what rules did they establish?
5. What was the Virginia Plan?
6. What concern about the Virginia Plan did many delegates have?
7. How would the legislative branch of the national government be populated according to the Virginia Plan?
8. What did smaller states fear because of this plan?
9. What did the New Jersey Plan offer?
10. The problems between the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey plan were solved by the Connecticut Compromise, often called the Great Compromise. What was the solution?
11. What problems did the issue of slavery cause at the Convention?
12. Explain the Three-Fifths Compromise.
13. What other compromises about slavery were reached at the Constitutional Convention?

14. What delegate did not speak during the Constitutional Convention?
15. What did Benjamin Franklin observe about the sun on the back of the president's chair?
16. Who were the three members that refused to sign the Constitution and what were their reasons?
17. How many of the 13 states had to approve the Constitution for it to go into effect?